

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 EA-09 FRB-01 INR-07 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-06

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 FEA-01

ERDA-07 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INT-05 L-03 NSC-05 PM-04

USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-05 SS-15 STR-04 NRC-07 /155 W

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 0412

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 03120

PASS: SIEVERING, ERDA, PROCHNIK, OES, SWARTZ, EUR/RPE,

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD/NEA: REPORT ON MEETING OF STUDY GROUP ON
LONG TERM ROLE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, JANUARY 29, 1976

REF: (A) SEN/NELT(75)8 - DRAFT AGENDA, (B).OECD PARIS
OECD PARIS 2717

1. SUMMARY. ONE-DAY MEETING ATTENDED BY REPS FROM
CANADA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY, JAPAN, NETHER-
LANDS, NORWAY, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, UK, US
(MISSION OFFICER). OBSERVERS FROM IEA (BOXER), IAEA
AND EC TOOK ACTIVE PART IN DISCUSSIONS. PROPOSAL FOR
RENEWAL OF MANDATE PER NE(74)4 WAS ADDED TO AGENDA
(SEE SEPTTEL). DATE OF NEXT MEETING TO BE DECIDED
AFTER DISCUSSION IN APRIL MEETING OF STEERING
COMMITTEE. END SUMMARY.

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2. AT OUTSET OF MEETING UK PROPOSED PRELIMINARY

REVIEW OF MANDATE, ORIGINALLY SET BY ENEA STEERING COMMITTEE IN 1964, REF NE/M(64)3. THIS WAS DISCUSSED BRIEFLY UNDER OTHER BUSINESS ON BASIS OF SECRETARIAT DRAFT, TO BE REVISED PER MEMBER COUNTRY COMMENTS. (SEE SEPTTEL FOR TEXT AND COMMENTS.)

3. STUDY ON LONG-TERM FUEL CYCLE REQUIREMENTS. CHAIRMAN OF WP ON URANIUM DEMAND REPORTED ORALLY ON NEW STUDY, TO BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT ONE YEAR. THIS STUDY WILL PRESENT DIFFERENT SCENARIOS, WITH EMPHASIS ON THOSE ASSUMING LIMITATION OF URANIUM SUPPLY, COUPLED WITH VARYING DEMAND PATTERNS. PROJECTIONS WILL BE TAKEN TO YEAR 2000 FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBER-COUNTRY DEMAND PATTERNS, WITH ATTENTION TO DIFFERENT REACTOR STRATEGIES. AN OVERALL PROJECTION WILL BE PUSHED AS FAR AS A.D. 2025 IF FEASIBLE, BUT CHAIRMAN STATED GROUP'S UNWILLINGNESS TO PUT RIGID CONSTRAINTS ON STUDY PERIOD. ROUND-TABLE COMMENT WAS POSITIVE. IAEA OBSERVER STATED HIS AGENCY'S INTEREST IN CONSIDERING IMPLICATIONS FOR LDCS. UK REP WARNED THAT STUDY-TIME SHOULD NOT BE WASTED ON LOW-PROBABILITY SCENARIOS, SUCH AS THORIUM.

4. STUDY ON BACK-END OF FUEL CYCLE PROPOSAL TO SET UP TASK FORCE ON REPROCESSING, SEN/NELT(75)9. UK REP LED EXPRESSION OF CONCERN THAT STUDY AS OUTLINED IN NE(75)18 WAS FAR TOO AMBITIOUS, AND THAT FOR THIS REASON THE NEA SPECIALIZED COMMITTEES MENTIONED IN PARA 5 OF REFDOC HAD ALREADY REFUSED PARTICIPATION. THE STUDY GROUP DECIDED THAT (A) THE SCOPE OF THE NELT STUDY WOULD BE LIMITED TO THE LOGISTICS OF THE OXIDE FUEL REPROCESSING PROBLEM, AND THAT (B) A TASK FORCE OF 5-6 EXPERTS FROM MEMBER-COUNTRIES PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN DISCUSSION PROBLEM WOULD MEET ON MARCH 5 TO ADVISE THE SECRETARIAT IN OUTLINING A WORK PROGRAM

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FOR SUBMISSION TO THE NEA STEERING COMMITTEE IN APRIL.

5. GROUP OF EXPERTS ON R AND D IN URANIUM PROSPECTING (CHANGED TO EXPLORATION) SEN/NELT(75)10. THIS GROUP WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE NEA STEERING COMMITTEE TO COLLABORATE WITH IAEA IN SELECTING AND COORDINATING COOPERATIVE R&D EFFORTS, AND IN EFFECTIVELY DISSEMINATING INFORMATION DERIVED THEREFROM. THERE WILL ALSO BE CLOSE LIAISON WITH IEA AND EC, PARTICULARLY AS THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION HAS THE ROLE TO MAKE PROPOSALS FOR AN IEA PROJECT TO CONSIDER THE RESPONSIBILITY POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF R&D IN THIS FIELD. THERE WILL THUS BE USEFUL COMPLEMENTARITY BETWEEN THE TWO PROJECTS, WITH THE RESULTS OF THE NEA TECHNICAL STUDYING FEEDING INTO THE IEA'S POLICY CONSIDERATIONS.

6. URANIUM RESOURCES EVALUATION. PROPOSAL TO SET UP A STEERING GROUP OF JOINT NEA/IAEA WORKING PARTY ON UNCLASSIFIED

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URANIUM RESOURCES SEN/NELT(75)10. DESPITE CONSIDERABLE SCEPTICISM REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF ACCESS TO DATA OF COMMERCIALY CONFIDENTIAL NATURE, THE STUDY GROUP AGREED THAT A SMALL, MIXED GROUP OF ACADEMIC FLAVOR, BE ESTABLISHED AS PROPOSED TO "SEE WHAT IT COULD DO".

7. UTILIZATION OF HEAT FROM NUCLEAR RESOURCES. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE IEA HAS AN R&D PROJECT ON HTR FOR PROCESS HEAT, THE NELT GROUP UNANIMOUSLY REJECTED THIS STUDY.

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